

*****August 10, 2020*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a regular meeting electronically on Monday, August 10, 2020. The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. Those present were:

Those present were: Mayor Dan Landrum
Councilmember Cheryl Graham
Councilmember Bill Lusk
Councilmember Susannah Murdock

Also present were: Town Manager Boyd Veal
Town Attorney Harry Cash
Finance Director/Town Recorder Carol White

Mayor Landrum led the pledge of allegiance. A moment of silence was observed.

Citizen Comments

Mayor Landrum asked if there were any requests to address the Council.

George Davenport-Creekshire Drive, said he was disturbed about the possibility of removing the memorial to C. E. James.

Erin Goddard, Carolina Avenue, asked that the Town residents be proactive and have conversations regarding the issues raised regarding C. E. James, specifically fostering greater diversity in our community.

Jim Collins, James Boulevard, spoke in opposition to removing the monument to C. E. James.

Claire Griesinger, Carriage Hill Dr, expressed frustration about her view that there is a lack of information regarding the status of the water line inter connection project.

Brad Case, James Boulevard, said it is not realistic to change everything and spoke in opposition to removing the C. E. James monument.

There being no further requests, the meeting resumed.

Resolutions

1. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO PURCHASE MOBILE DIGITAL RADIOS, TENNESSEE STATE CONTRACT NUMBER 423 FROM DALTON COMMUNICATIONS, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY AND 00/100 (\$23,250.00) DOLLARS TO BE USED BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THE TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN."

Vice Mayor Lusk made a motion to approve the Resolution. Councilmember Graham seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

2. "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO WRIGHT BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC. FOR THE REPAIR AND/OR PAVING OF CERTAIN STREETS WITHIN THE TOWN IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$500,000.00) AND AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AWARD."

Town Manager, Boyd Veal, informed the Council that this contract is approximately \$100,000.00 over the budgeted amount for this item. He explained that, with this overage in mind, the contract will be split into two parts, with a fall and spring schedule. Mr. Veal said that if revenues do not appear to be sufficient there might be a need to reduce the contract as the fiscal year goes forward. He stated this would be accomplished by removing some streets from the paving list for the spring schedule.

Councilmember Murdock made a motion to approve the Resolution. Vice Mayor Lusk seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor of approving the Resolution.

Discussion

- a. James Monument and Park. Mayor Landrum stated that, at the previous Council meeting, he had asked Mr. Veal to read a letter into the record regarding restrictions found in property deeds conveyed by the Mountain Land Company. Mayor Landrum said he wanted to listen to the residents for a few weeks, but this did not give Mr. Veal a chance to give any context to his letter.

Mr. Veal said he expected his letter to be an introduction to begin the discussion. He said that the information he imparted was not a recent discovery, but had been revealed quite a while back. Mr. Veal expressed concern that the Town needs to take some positive actions to overcome a reputation of racial bias. Mr. Veal said he is acknowledging history and trying to impact the future, not change the past.

Councilmember Murdock said she is opposed to moving the monument or renaming the park. Councilmember Murdock made extensive comments (see attached documentation), then asked the Council to continue the discussion of this item at a future time.

Councilmember Graham said the Town can't undo the impact of the past but can do better going forward. Councilmember Graham asked the Council to take some time and do more research into the issue.

Mayor Landrum said the Council should revisit this issue in a few months, at which time he will bring back suggestions from the James Family.

- b. Town Parks. Council agreed to discuss this item at a future meeting.
- c. Recreation Facilities – Flag Football. Mr. Veal explained that the Town has received a request to allow flag football on the athletic fields. David Wagner, President of the Signal Mountain Youth Flag Football League gave the Council a presentation (copy attached) of “The Case for Flag Football”.

Following discussions, Mayor Landrum made a motion that the Town allow fields to be used under restrictions presented by the Signal Mountain Youth Flag Football League, and to include execution of indemnification and/or waivers, as provided by the Town of Signal Mountain, to be signed by parents or guardians of all participants. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with all Councilmembers present voting in favor.

- d. Water System Interconnection. Mr. Veal reminded the Council that the ARCADIS engineering study recommended utilizing 2 to 3 6” lines. Mr. Veal said this provides enough water for the Town of Signal Mountain, but not enough for the Walden’s Ridge Utility District (WRUD) unless they provide supplemental pumping. During a joint meeting, WRUD asked the Town to look at a 12” line up Miles to provide better service. However, Mr. Veal said this does not allow more water, and that WRUD will still have to pump it.

Mr. Veal informed the Council that WRUD is anticipating installation of a 12” line to service a new development on Timesville Road. He said connecting to this 12” line could result in the Town spending the same but having a better outcome.

Water Utility Director, Adam Chrnalogar, said there would be the same flow for a connection to multiple 6” lines as to a 12” line. He said that WRUD gave an estimate of \$67,000 cost for materials for construction of this section.

Mr. Chrnalogar informed the Council that 3,000 new meters are on site with other coming soon. He said Aqua Meter will start installing the new meters on August 18th on route 3.

- e. Property Maintenance and Wildland Urban Interface Codes and Building Codes Fee Schedule. Council asked this item be moved to the next agenda.

Manager’s Report

Mr. Veal said the Public Works department is requesting to open the lobby at their building. Mr. Veal said that it would only be open for residents following all safety precautions. Council agreed that the Public Works building lobby begin opening for residents.

Mr. Veal informed the Council that the bids for the Marion/Driver LPRF project came in over cost. He said staff and the engineer are looking at options.

Mr. Veal said that the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) has completed a study of the Town's Stormwater fees. He said the recommendation is to double the current fees. Mr. Veal said that there is not sufficient time to get any changes reflected on this year's tax billing. Council will discuss this at a future meeting.

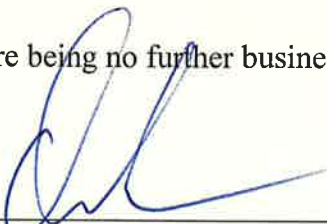
Other Business

- a. Communications from the Mayor. Mayor Landrum asked that staff make a push to get applicants for open Board and Commission positions. Mayor Landrum reminded everyone that the deadline for qualifying to run for Council positions is August 20th.
- b. Communications from Committees or Boards. None
- c. Communications from the Town Council. None

Tentative Agenda

Council discussed a tentative agenda for the August 24, 2020 meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.



Dan Landrum, Mayor

Recorder